WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An engine control apparatus comprising:

a stop switch body for allowing an engine to stop or to be in an idling state;

a stop switch knob that abuts with the stop switch body to activate the stop switch body to allow the engine to stop or to be in an idling state;

a lock plate that is insertable to the stop switch knob;

a transponder that is provided at the lock plate side and that can transmit a predetermined ID code;

a control section that can receive the ID code transmitted from the transponder and that can control based on the ID code the engine operation; and

a writing section for writing a regular ID code of a transponder to another transponder, wherein

when the lock plate is disengaged from the stop switch knob, the stop switch body is activated to allow the engine to stop or to be in an idling state.

2. The engine control apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein

the control section changes the engine performance based on the ID code from the transponder and, when the writing section is used to write the regular ID code of a transponder to another transponder, a to-be-specified engine performance can be changed.

3. The engine control apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a display section for displaying the difference in the engine performance specified for the transponder.

4. The engine control apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the transponder is inserted to and buried in the lock plate.